Published by Secretary of State Robin Carnahan

Missouri State Library

May-June 2005

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2005 legislative session affects state aid and library partners

ebate over changes to the nonresident athletes and entertainers tax may have dominated the headlines of this year's library-related legislation, but cuts to state aid and other legislative action made the most impact on the way libraries will operate in the future.

Senate Bill 269 proposed amending the nonresident athletes and entertainers (A&E) tax by changing the way those funds are distributed to organizations in the state. For the past three years the legislature has not allocated any funding from the tax to the original cultural partners: the arts and humanities councils, public libraries, historic preservation, and public television. Because the tax isn't specifically dedicated to the partners, the legislature used those funds for what they felt were more pressing budget matters.

The new bill made the tax a dedicated trust fund, but only allocated a small percentage of those collected funds to go to the original partners. The majority of the funding was targeted for sports authorities and specific cultural organizations. Had the bill passed, libraries would have been guaranteed some funding, but significantly reduced when compared to the original purpose of the A&E subsidy. Senate Bill 269 could be resubmitted in next year's legislative session. The legislature eventually approved \$100,000 for libraries through the current A&E program.

One major impact in the Secretary of State's budget came from a cut in House Bill 12, which reduces state aid to libraries by 25%. The cut affects all public libraries in the state receiving the per capita allocation and libraries in low-income population areas receiving equalization funding.

Other legislative action affecting Missouri's libraries:

House Bill 47 requires trustees of consolidated library districts to reside in the county they represent. There are only five districts the bill will affect and it is meant to amend previous legislation that left the issue unclear.

House Bill 658 removes the provision requiring the Kansas City Public Library's chief executive officer to have a graduate degree in library science.

House Bill 461, Senate Bill 210, and Senate Bill 267 all relate to various tax issues and provisions for local government that include public library districts.

MOBIUS and MOREnet face major budget cuts

As the 2006 fiscal year begins on July 1, two of Missouri's major statewide library partners will face cuts made to their budgets during the 2005 legislative session. Both MOBIUS and MOREnet suffered significant cuts to their state funding, and over the next year libraries across the state will feel the impact of those cuts.

MOBIUS, which receives funding under House Bill 3 (Department of Higher Education), has received \$649,539 from the state each year since the initial appropriation for the cost of the system was complete. The funding represented the state's share of the ongoing costs. Higher education institutions provided the remaining funds for the program.

During this year's session the state legislature eliminated the \$649,539 from the budget, and as a result the member libraries now face a 36 percent increase in the fee schedule. The increased cost to member libraries is significant. George Rickerson, executive director of

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newsline

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MOBIUS and MOREnet face major budget cuts

MOBIUS, stated at a recent Secretary's Council meeting that academic institutions realize the value of the system and must to find a way to accommodate the increase in their own budgets.

Over the past two years MOBIUS began expanding membership to the platform by adding two public libraries, Springfield-Greene County Library and Missouri River Regional Library. As a result of the budget cut, plans to add additional public libraries are now on hold indefinitely.

MOREnet funding comes from two separate bills, House Bill 3 and House Bill 12. The MOREnet funding that comes from HB12 and supports public libraries and the REAL program remains intact and at its 2005 funding level.

As part of House Bill 3 MOREnet faced a 30 percent budget cut, forcing the organization to reorganize some services and planning. About \$1 million of internal reductions will take place in the next year, including moving MOREnet and MOBIUS into the same physical space at the Columbia office, a transfer of Internet2 funding back to the University of Missouri, and the deferral of equipment purchases.

Another \$1.7 million shortfall from the House Bill 3 budget cuts will be shared among MOREnet users, prorated based on the bandwidth used. MOREnet serves four main customers: K-12 schools, colleges and universities, public libraries, and state government. It will be left to the individual customers to decide how to handle the increased rates and fees within their own structures. Analysis of services is also underway so MOREnet can properly evaluate whether or not other activities can be adjusted to absorb the cuts.

New members join Secretary's Council on Library Development

Secretary of State Robin Carnahan has appointed nine new members to the Secretary's Council on Library Development. Members serve three-year terms and include Missouri state legislators, representatives from all types of Missouri libraries, trustees, library users, and general public.

The council advises the secretary of state and the state librarian on matters relating to Missouri libraries and library service. The council meets quarterly to discuss the use of federal library funds, set policies and guidelines for grants, and recommend programs.

New council members presided at the June 10 council meeting, where budget issues and library funding topped the agenda. Much of the council discussion centered on the results of the legislative session and the

plan for addressing the coming year. In addition, the council reviewed reports on the status of the state's summer reading program and efforts to centralize the collections of different state agencies. The meeting concluded with a discussion led by Executive Deputy Secretary of State Mark Reading and Chief of Staff Mindy Mazur, who asked the council to consider what the secretary of state's office could do to make a difference for Missouri libraries.

Melissa Carr, director of the Daniel Boone Regional Library, has been named chair of the council. New members representing the Missouri legislature include: State Senator Joan Bray, State Representative Kathlyn Fares, State Representative Paul LeVota, and State Senator Robert N. Mayer. Representing school libraries: Mary Fridley, Lake St. Louis. Representing citizens: Martha Maxwell, High Ridge; Kia Moore, St. Louis; and Linda Walker, Kansas City.

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From I-r: Hannah Faith Cheatum, Jessica Lemaster, Kristen Shively, Alison Faulkner, Jamie Spencer, Katherine Petrullo, Lauren Croll, Deanna Keeling, Secretary of State Robin Carnahan, Morgan Brown, Emily Meitz, Josh Hosmer-Quint, Julie Grosmann. Not pictured: Teira Worthy.

Secretary Carnahan presents awards to students for 'letters about literature'

Imagine reading a book that changed you. Perhaps it inspired you to reach a goal or it helped you solve a difficult problem. Maybe that book had such an impact it made you a stronger, better person. Then imagine writing a letter to the author of that book, to explain the effect the book had on your life.

This year, almost 900 Missouri students did exactly that, and submitted those letters in a competition showcasing a most valuable lesson: exploring how and why we respond to the books we read. The competition, called Letters About Literature, encourages young readers to explore their personal responses to books and then express those responses in a creative, original way. Readers can select authors from any genre fiction or nonfiction, contemporary or classic.

The contest is held for students in fourth through twelfth grades, and letters are evaluated in both statewide and national competitions. First place winners in each state represent that state in the national competition, which offers a trip to the National Book Festival in Washington, D.C., and a \$500 Target gift card as the grand prize.

Missouri winners received certificates and cash prizes for their efforts and were honored on April 13 at the Missouri State Capitol in Jefferson City. First place winners also received a \$50 Target gift card. Secretary of State Robin Carnahan presented the awards at the ceremony.

Letters About Literature is sponsored by the Missouri Center for the Book, the Missouri State Library, the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, and Target Stores. This year's winning letters and information about the 2006 contest have been posted on the Missouri Center for the Book's Web site, http://books.missouri.org. The complete list of 2005 winners is as follows:

Level I Winners (Grades 4-6)

First Place: Katherine Petrullo, Forsyth School, Saint Louis. Second Place: Alison Faulkner, Mercer County Library, Princeton. Honorable Mention: Morgan Brown, Auxvasse Elementary School; Emily Meitz, Assumption Parish School, Saint Louis.

Level II Winners (Grades 7-8)

First Place: Lauren Croll. Smithton Middle School, Columbia. Second Place: Hannah Faith Cheatum, home school, Conway.



WEB WATCH

France in America.

http://international.loc. gov/intldl

A bilingual Web site launched May 11 by the Library of Congress and the National Library of France. Explores the history of the French presence in North America with more than 100,000 images from the rare book, manuscript, map, and print collections of both libraries.

Feeding America: The Historic **American Cookbook Proiect**

http://digital.lib.msu.edu/ projects/cookbooks

A project of Michigan State University and the MSU Museum, this site collects American cookbooks from the late 18th to the early 20th century.

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Honorable Mention: Josh Hosmer-Quint, West Junior High School, Columbia; Deanna Keeling, Marshfield Junior High School. Level III Winners (Grades 9-12)

First Place: Jessica Lemaster, Nixa High School. **Second Place:** Kristen Shively, Simonsen Ninth Grade Center, Jefferson City. **Honorable Mention:** Julie Grosmann, Parkway South High School, Ballwin; Teira Worthy, Jennings Senior High School.

Missourians named to Advocacy Honor Roll

Three Missourians have been selected for the 2005 National Advocacy Honor Roll, awarded at the American Library Association's Annual Conference in Chicago on June 24, 2005. The Association for Library Trustees and Advocates (ALTA) sponsors the Honor Roll, which was created in 2000 to honor library advocates from the 20th century. States were asked to submit ten advocates for the 2000 Honor Roll. This year,

each state was also invited to select up to three additional advocates, particularly those who have been active during the past five years. Missouri's honorees are Annie Busch, director of the Springfield-Greene County Library; Governor Matt Blunt; and Don Gaertner, retired director of the St. Louis County Library.



Don Gaertner, State Librarian Sara Parker, and Annie Busch at the ALA Conference in Chicago. (Springfield-Greene County Library photo)

NEH awards *We the People* grants

Thirteen Missouri libraries have received free copies of 15 classic books from the *We the People* Bookshelf, a National Endowment for the Humanities program. These libraries are part of 1,000 across the country

that received the award during the two rounds of the 2005 program.

The focus of this year's *We the People* Bookshelf is freedom, and the books range from *Paul Revere's Ride* by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow to *Animal Farm* and *1984* by George Orwell. With the books, each library receives posters, bookmarks, and other promotional material.

Missouri recipients are: Bonne Terre Memorial Library Bucklin R-II Library Media Center Canton Public Library Clinton Middle School Library Media Center

Delmar-Harvard Elementary School, University City

Gentry County Library, Stanberry Golden City R-III Schools Library Grandview Elementary School Library, Higginsville

Hickory County Library, Hermitage Humboldt Middle School, St. Louis Riverside Regional Library, Jackson Sheldon High School Webster Groves High School Library

Workshops highlight outreach to Latinos

As Missouri's Spanish-speaking population increases, libraries are looking for ways to reach out to new community members and encourage them to use the library. To help them do that, the State Library recently presented "Building Bridges: Library Services for Latino Populations" at Carrollton, Cape Girardeau, and Springfield. The workshops drew 50 participants from public, academic, and school libraries, as well as other community service agencies.

Denice Adkins, an assistant professor at the School of Information Science and Learning Technologies at the University of Missouri–Columbia, led the workshops. Adkins discussed how to find statistical information for areas of the state experiencing the most rapid Latino population expansion. Suggestions for bilingual outreach services, program development, Web resources, and

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multicultural and bilingual collection development were also featured.

Feedback from the workshop attendees shows that the information was useful for libraries interested in making their facilities more welcoming for the Latino community. "This workshop provided the nuts and bolts information I can actually use," said one participant. "I can start on some of the simple and inexpensive ideas immediately."

Evaluating libraries' return on investment

The American Library Association's Office of Research and Statistics recently released a bibliography of articles, books, and studies evaluating the various ways to assess a library's economic value. The bibliography focuses primarily on public libraries and includes international resources that provide methodology and case studies. Reflecting the past 20 years of research, the list contains several entries from Glen Holt, retired executive director of the St. Louis Public Library. Many items in the bibliography contain live links to the content. Access the bibliography at www.ala.org/ala/ors/reports/roi.htm.

One such study commissioned by the Florida State Library (http://dlis.dos.state. fl.us/bld/roi/) showed Florida's public libraries return \$6.54 for every \$1.00 invested. To establish the return on investment the project placed libraries into an evaluative framework, allowing their economic impact to be compared with that of other types of organizations. Analysis included federal, state, and local public funds received by libraries, a sum of \$449 million, which yielded a \$2.9 billion total economic return attributable to the existence of the public libraries. The Florida Department of State released the report in January 2005. Links on their Web site contain an overview of the project, surveys, workshops, and publications that evolved from the study.

Digital recording booth open house

The Friends of Wolfner Library for the

Blind and Physically Handicapped held their annual meeting on Saturday, April 23, and featured keynote speaker Martha Harmon Pardee, the winner of the 2004 Alexander Scourby Award for fiction. Pardee has narrated 600 books for the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.



Martha Harmon Pardee records *If I Were a Lion* in the Wolfner Library digital recording booth.

The Wolfner Friends group also honored Christine Parsons of House Springs, Missouri, who was the grand prize winner of the fourth annual National Braille Challenge Invitation.

Guests also had the opportunity to see the new digital recording booth Wolfner volunteers use to record talking books. Last year Wolfner turned their volunteer room into a state-of-the-art digital recording booth to keep up with advancing technology and meet patron demand for talking books on Missouri-related subjects. The recording booth open house allowed the Friends group to see how beneficial the booth is to Wolfner patrons.



Christine Parsons, winner of the National Braille Challenge Invitational, addresses the Wolfner Friends Group.

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Missouri Library News

newsline welcomes information for "Missouri Library News" and "Personal Notes" from librarians, library trustees, and others interested in the state's libraries. Send news about library events, projects, awards, and personnel changes to the editor. (See page 2 for contact information.)

Library clerk bequeaths \$351,000

George Kyle worked as a library clerk for the St. Louis Public Library for 46 years, at a salary that never topped \$20,000. So it came as quite a surprise when library administrators recently learned the library would receive a \$351,000 from Kyle's estate. Kyle retired in 1998 after becoming well known at the Carpenter branch as a booklover with a strong sense of humor. He died in November 2003 at age 88.

The bequest is likely the largest amount ever donated to the library by an employee. An endowment will be set up to equally benefit adult and children's collections at the Carpenter branch, which currently has an annual materials budget of \$29,000.

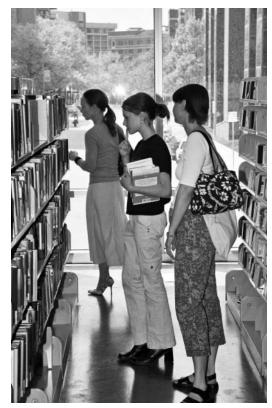
Diane Freiermuth, the library's deputy director, told the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* that while everyone was a little surprised by the amount of the bequest, "knowing George, they could all understand why he donated the money. He loved reading and he loved books."

KCPL opens Plaza branch in office tower

In an arrangement that kept the library from raising taxes or taking on debt, the Kansas City Public Library opened its new Plaza branch on April 16. The facility is part of an office tower built by private developers on land owned by the library. In exchange for constructing and operating the ten-story office building, the developers set aside 50,000 square feet on the bottom floors for the library. The remaining floors are office and retail space the developers will operate for 99 years, when the ownership of the building will revert back to the library.

Rising costs prevented the library from finishing the entire 50,000 square feet, so a 15,000 square foot lower level is targeted for future expansion when additional funding is available. The new library has a children's area three times its previous size, 50 public access computers, a teen department, space for children's crafts, and wireless Internet access.

ternet access.
More than 3,000 people visited the library on its opening day.



Kansas City Public Library Plaza branch (Andrew Arnone photo)

Libraries sign reciprocal agreement

The Sullivan Public Library and Scenic Regional Library have signed a reciprocal agreement allowing all Franklin County residents access to the Sullivan Public Library without paying a nonresident fee. Compensation based on usage will be worked out between the libraries over the next few months.

Sullivan Public Library Director Mary Wehrman told the *Sullivan Independent News* that cooperating with the neighboring



KCPL Plaza branch (Mike Sinclair photo)

library district is "the best thing we can do to better serve our patrons. With this agreement, everybody wins."

Hannibal, Washington, and Seymour benefit from bequests

Hannibal Public Library received \$63,000 from the estate of a local couple who had been strong supporters of the library and many other community organizations. The board will use the interest from the bequest for library materials.

Washington Public Library received \$25,000 from the estate of a longtime patron, who left funds to both the library and the local historical society. The library may use the funds to expand the library's media collection.

Seymour Public Library recently received almost \$18,000 for an endowment fund the library uses for annual operating expenses. The fund was established by Blaine A. Childress, a Seymour native and 1940 graduate of the local high school.

Jefferson County opens Arnold branch

Jefferson County Library's \$3.5 million branch in Arnold opened May 1. A computer lab, meeting room, expanded children's section, quiet study room, and space for a coffee shop make the library a great attraction for its citizens. The building will also be connected by an enclosed walkway to the city's \$16 million recreation center currently under construction. Director Pam Klipsch sees the adjoining recreation center as a win-win situation for all the organizations involved. "Once the recreation center opens, we anticipate we will have folks coming through the library who have never visited us before," said Klipsch. "And the branch staff is eager to cooperate with the recreation center. We hope we can do some joint programs for seniors."

The 19,000 square foot facility replaces the 3,500 square foot branch that had operated out of the lower level of the Arnold City Hall for the last 15 years. The building was primarily financed through a lease purchase agreement, with additional funding from operating reserves, grants, and private donations.

Arnold's ribbon cutting ceremony and open house was held on May 1, and included tours of the library and the recreation center, refreshments, a jazz combo, and a flag ceremony.

The library will become an even bigger draw for the community when the library and recreation center are joined by a new campus for Jefferson College, scheduled to open in 2007.



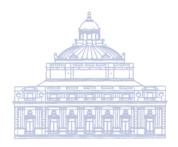
Steele Public Library moves into community center

Steele Public Library recently opened the doors of its new facility in the local community center. The move was part of a decision by the city council to move all city offices into the new center. The library was closed about two weeks while workers built shelves, painted, carpeted, and made the building suitable for their needs. The new facility has doubled the space available and library director Myrna McKay says patrons really enjoy the room they have to sit, read, and study.

Library of Congress offers one-stop access to cataloging resources

Launched by the Library of Congress, the Cataloger's Learning Workshop (www.loc.gov/catworkshop) is a cataloging and metadata training resource to promote core competencies for cataloging practitioners. The site's developers hope catalogers and training providers will benefit from the easy access to information. The site includes a discussion group, links to cataloging training providers and publishers, online training courses, and suggested readings in bibliographic control.

The site was developed through a partnership with the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) and the Program for Cooperative Cataloging.



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Personal Notes

Appointments

Karen Hicklin, director of Livingston County Library, has accepted the director position at Trails Regional Library in Warrensburg, effective July 1. Hicklin replaces Susan Bonett, who is retiring from Trails after 23 years of service. A reception to honor Bonett was held on June 26 to celebrate her contribution to the library system.

Christie Kessler has been appointed Cass County Public Library Director. Ms. Kessler served the library as assistant director for two years, and replaces Jo Irwin.

Pam Trammell has been hired as director of Keller Public Library in Dexter. Prior to her employment at the library she served as administrator of the Dexter Senior Center.

JoNell Minton succeeds Richard Reynolds as director of the Dunklin County Library, effective May 1. Minton previously served as assistant director and has been employed at the library for more than 20 years.

Awards

Cathy Betz, coordinator of library media services in the Raytown School District, has been selected as the 2005 recipient of the Missouri Association of School Librarians Bright Idea Award. The award recognizes a person who has innovatively enlarged the role of the library media center. Betz was selected for the Everybody Reads Everybody Books program, which she designed and initiated during the 2002-2003 school year. Everybody Reads Everybody Books promotes parent involvement and encourages reading among the whole family and across generations. The program has grown annually to involve all 8,832 students in the Raytown district.

Carol Mullen, a librarian at Kirkwood Public Library, has been selected for the nominating committee of the Quill Awards, a new national book award honoring excellence in book publishing. The Quill awards are designed to promote literacy and honor titles readers find most entertaining and enlightening. Mullen and the rest of the committee will nominate finalists in 19 categories, and the winners will be chosen by the public during August and September. The book award ceremony will be broadcast by NBC on October 22, 2005.

Retirements

Martha Moulin, manager of the Jamesport branch of the Daviess County Library, recently retired after 16 years of service. Library Director Jan Johnson says Moulin was "totally dedicated" to the library and will be difficult to replace. Moulin plans to travel, relax, and catch up on her reading.

Deaths

Betty Schramm, former assistant director of the St. Louis County Library, died at the age of 81. Schramm began her career at the library in 1956 and was promoted to assistant director in 1980. She retired from the library in 1990.



Carnahan awards five new library grants

Secretary of State Robin Carnahan recently awarded five new grants to Missouri libraries, totaling \$13,172. The grants are funded through the federal Library Services and Technology Act, and their official start date was May 1, 2005.

Kent Library, Southeast Missouri State University \$3,446

The library has been awarded a Bring in an Expert grant to seek expert assistance in redefining the library's public documents selection profile and to substantially weed the existing tangible collection, some of which is of significant historical value. The expert will evaluate the library's needs and assist the staff in devising a comprehensive weeding and preservation project.

McDonald County Library

\$1,900

A Spotlight on Library Programs grant has been awarded to the McDonald County Library to organize a senior services fair. The library conducted a one-day event where local organizations, businesses, and agencies exhibited information about their services for seniors. At the same time the library provided tours and made seniors aware of the services and resources the library has to offer.

Wellsville Public Library

\$650

Wellsville Public Library will use a Spotlight on Library Programs grant to host a medieval fair as a conclusion to their summer reading program. Families of participating children will be invited to the event, featuring skits, storytelling, crafts, and music. The program has been organized as a response to very positive reactions from participants of previous smaller-scale programming featuring the same performers, and will emphasize the importance of summer reading programs.

Missouri Library Network Corporation

\$6,476

Missouri Library Network Corporation (MLNC) has received a Training and Professional Development grant to host a one-day regional institute titled "Incorporating Outcomes into Library Measurement and Assessment." Through this training participants will develop a more complete understanding of outcomes-based assessment and its application in library settings. The Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA), a division of the American Library Association, will present the training.

St. Louis County Library

\$700

St. Louis County Library will use a Training and Professional Development grant for a half-day workshop on equal opportunity employment issues. The workshop will train the library's 75 managers and supervisors to better understand human resources and employment law issues.

2005 MASL book awards announced

After students across the state read and picked their favorites, the Missouri Association of School Librarians recently announced the winners of their annual series of book awards. The announcements were made at the annual MASL Spring Conference in April.

Over 17,000 Missouri students voted for the 2005 Show Me Readers Award book,

Epossumondas, by Colleen Salley. The award promotes literature, literacy, and reading in Missouri elementary schools for grades one through three, and promotes authors and illustrators of books that are favorites of Missouri children in these grades. To vote for their favorite, students must read or have read to them at least six of the nominated books.

Wenny Has Wings, by Janet Lee Carey, was selected as the 2005 Mark Twain Award winner. Students in grades four

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'Libraries matter' campaign spreads across the country

A fundraising effort started in Illinois has spread throughout the country as thousands purchase "libraries matter" bracelets from www.librariesmatter.com, a library awareness campaign developed by the Alliance Library System in East Peoria, Illinois. The rubber bracelets, which are popular fundraisers for many charitable causes, are sold in bulk to local libraries. In Missouri, Gentry County Library, Kirkwood Public Library, and St. Joseph Public Library sell the bracelets as part of Friends group fundraisers or in their library gift shops. An elementary school librarian in St. Joseph uses the bracelets as reading incentives, and Washington University in St. Louis sells them to raise money for tsunami relief to rebuild libraries.

The bracelets are only a part of the library system's awareness campaign and other resources and information can be found on their Web site, www. librariesmatter.com.

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Report examines libraries and lifelong learning

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has released a report on how museums and libraries bolster K-12 education and lifelong learning in communities across the nation. "Charting the Landscape, Mapping New Paths: Museums, Libraries, and K-12 Learning," is based on an Institute workshop at which more than seventy educators, researchers, policymakers, and museum and library professionals examined K-12 collaborations among their organizations.

Three key challenges to developing a "learning society" with museum, library, and school partnerships emerged from the workshop, including successfully redefining education as a lifetime endeavor, understanding the changing nature of professional roles, and moving beyond anecdotal evidence to show what works.

The report highlights projects and partnerships and can be used as a tool to lay a foundation for understanding the power of museum, library, school, and community collaborations in cultivating lifelong learning societies. It includes an appendix of selected resources, most of which are available online, and a useful glossary of terms used throughout the workshop. Copies of the report are available at www. imls.gov/pubs/pdf/Charting_ the_Landscape.pdf.

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MASL book awards

through eight read at least four of the nominated titles to vote for a winner, and *Wenny Has Wings* gathered 3,825 votes. Carey has accepted an invitation to speak at the 2006 spring conference.

Students in grades nine through twelve vote for the Gateway Readers Award, and this year 275 selected *The Lovely Bones*, by Alice Sebold, as the winner.

Complete master title lists and previous years' winners for all three awards are available on the MASL Web site, http://maslonline.org.

New online resources announced

REAL program participants and other MOREnet customers now have access to new online resources from EBSCO Publishing. MOREnet, acting for the Secretary of State's Office and the Missouri State Library, awarded their online resources contract to EBSCO, providing general periodicals and information in the health, business, humanities, social science, and K-12 subject areas to public libraries across the state. Agencies and schools served by MOREnet's Technology Network Program (TNP) and the Missouri Education and Research Consortium (MERC) will also receive the same resources.

The contract begins at the start of the state's 2006 fiscal year, July 1, 2005. New databases include Business Source Premier, Regional Business News, Newspaper Source, and MasterFILE Premier, a significant upgrade from MasterFILE Elite. MasterFILE Premier is designed specifically for public libraries and contains full text for more than 2,000 general reference publications, 450 full text reference books, 84,074 biographies, and an image collection of 107,135 photos, maps, and flags.

An expanded collection of newspapers will also be available through Newsbank, including the *Kansas City Star, St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, and the *Springfield News-Leader*.

For a complete list of the online resources available through MOREnet, visit www.more.net/online/.

Trustees sharpen their library management skills

On May 20-21, 32 public library trustees from around the state gathered in Kansas City for an opportunity to share their experiences and learn about their roles and responsibilities as library board members.



Sponsored by the Missouri State Library, the 2005 Trustee Academy focused on strategic planning, writing policy, cultivating relationships with the library directors, advocacy, fiscal responsibilities, conducting public meetings, and addressing potential legal issues.

The Academy began on a Friday evening, where trustees could network and enjoy dinner together, followed by speaker Ellen Miller's presentation on trustee essentials. Miller (of the Ellen Miller Group) continued her presentation on Saturday, which included skits and interactive sessions with the participants. Kent Brown, lawyer for the Missouri Public Library Directors organization, offered a variety of scenarios for the trustees to consider during his presentation on legal issues.

With two highly experienced presenters and an agenda to accommodate questions, reaction to this year's academy was very positive. "I learned so much," said one participant. "I will really be able to take back a wealth of information to my fellow board members and new director."

The academy was made possible with funds from the federal Library Services and

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Technology Act (LSTA) as administered by the Missouri State Library. Plans are underway to offer a series of special topic presentations for trustees in October and November 2005. Dates and additional information will be available late August from the State Library.

2005 State Library Trustee Academy Participants

Canton Public Library: Sam Tillman

Cass County Library: Jeanne Jewell and Edward Thrailkill

Cedar County Library: Larry Nottingham

Christian County Library: Janis Davis

Daniel Boone Regional Library: Rosie Gerding

Daviess County Library: Roger Eichler

Doniphan-Ripley County Library: Dorothy Green

Farmington Public Library: Sharon Eads

Heartland Regional Library System: Priscilla Evans

Joplin Public Library: Veda Boyd Jones and Jo Mueller

Lebanon-Laclede County Library: Kelly Hicks

Maplewood Public Library: Stephen Findley and Linda Woods

Maryville Public Library: Charles Hawkins

Mid-Continent Public Library: Joycelyn Tucker Burgo, Victor Gragg, and

Brent Schondelmeyer

Missouri River Regional Library: Danny Davidson

Monroe City Public Library: Kay Howes

Mountain View Public Library: Renee DePriest

Ozark Regional Library: Harley McDonald

Pulaski County Library: Adam Sadowski

Reynolds County Library: Don Meloy

Robertson Memorial Library: Betty Porter

Sedalia Public Library: Jim Rissler

St. Joseph Public Library: Norma Bagnall and Deborah Weems

Stone County Library: Sharon Morris

Sullivan Public Library: Jan Busch

Trails Regional Library: Diane Dunford

Upcoming Events



August 2-5

MOSL Library Skills Institute

August 2-4

MOSL Technical Trainer Workshop

August 14-18

International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) Conference in Olso, Norway

August 19

Wolfner Advisory Council Meeting

August 19

LAMA Regional Institute on Outcomes Assessment, Columbia

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Wolfner staff available to spread the word

Does your library encourage patrons to use the services offered by the Wolfner Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped? Do your library's employees understand what materials are available from the Library?

Wolfner loans recorded and braille books and magazines and specially designed play-back equipment to residents in Missouri who are unable to read or use standard print materials because of visual or physical impairment. Over 60,000 books on tape are available. The library also offers readers' advisory services, reference services, and

programs for schools and institutions. They offer these services at no charge to Missourians in cooperation with the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped at the Library of Congress.

Representatives from Wolfner Library are available to speak at libraries around the state to teach staff members about the services offered. Wolfner staff can help library employees understand the process for certifying readers for the program and can also speak at community events where potential talking book readers might be in attendance.

Contact Wolfner at 800-392-2614 or *www.sos.mo.gov/wolfner/* to arrange for a speaker in your community or to learn more about Wolfner Library.

Missouri State Library PO Box 387 Jefferson City, MO 65102-0387

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